

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-29 are currently pending in this application. Claims 9, 11, 14, 18-20, and 23 previously withdrawn by the Examiner are canceled by this amendment along with claims 1, 8, 10, 12-13, 15-17, 21-22, 24 and 26-29. Claims 7 and 25 have been amended. Applicant notes that the Examiner has indicated that claims 2-6 have allowable subject matter and claim 25 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim.

Reconsideration of the merits of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments made above and the remarks that follow. Entry of this amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.116, amendment after final, is respectfully requested.

Entry of the Amendment

Entry of this amendment under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b)(1) is requested because the amendment only amends claim 7 to depend from an allowed claim, amends claim 25 (indicated to have allowable subject matter if amended to be independent and incorporate all limitations from the base claim) to be independent and incorporate the limitations of the base claim and to cancel all other rejected or withdrawn claims.

This Amendment cancels all rejected claims, except claim 7, which was amended to depend from claim 2, indicated to be allowable by the Examiner, leaving only claims already allowed or allowable. This Amendment raises no substantive issues since only allowed claims remain.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection of Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Edwards et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0153905. Applicants respectfully disagree but in order to facilitate allowance of the claims,

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Response to Final Rejection dated October 18, 2006*

claims 1, 8, 10, 26 and 27 have been canceled without prejudice and claim 7 amended to depend from claim 2, rendering these rejections moot.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection of Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 12, 15, 16, 17, 21, 24, 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Chin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,802,840) in view of Chen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,826,428). Applicants respectfully disagree but in order to facilitate allowance of the claims, claims 12, 15, 16, 17, 21, 24, 28 and 29 have been canceled without prejudice, rendering these rejections moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and notice of this, in the form of a notice of allowance, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at 763.505.0003 or by e-mail at mary.p.bauman@medtronic.com with any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

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